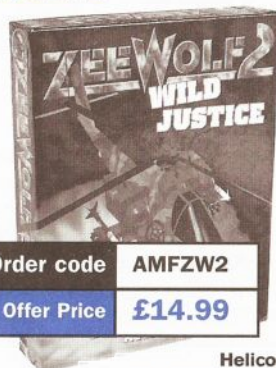


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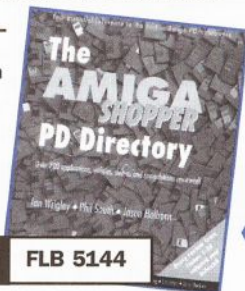
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AMIGA SHOPPER

Subscription Letter

Issue **65** August 1996



Dear Subscriber

So, the wait is finally over and ViScorp's jury has returned. The Walker is dead before it ever hits the streets. Well, surprisingly, this has cheered quite a few of us up. There were some very serious doubts about a machine based on an 030 chipset ever succeeding at all.

In their recent press conference, ViScorp announced their dedication to our platform with a new OS planned as soon as possible. What now seems likely is the appearance of some form of 040 A1200 with the new OS and hopefully a realistic price point.

The news also that Phase 5 are to be allowed to licence the Amiga hardware, a chance they have reportedly jumped at, is another breakthrough for the Amiga. It has long been maintained that the only way to reclaim the marketplace was by opening up the way for third party manufacturers.

The downside of course is that it means we'll be seeing yet more time delays eating away at any remaining user base loyalty and that the new Amigas will have an even harder time finding a market. However, there is room for a computer like the Amiga in the marketplace so long as it is targeted well and quickly. Whether ViScorp manage it or not remains to be seen, but it looks like our favourite machine is finally in the hands of people who understand the extent of the work that lies ahead.

David Taylor
Deputy Editor

See back page for special offers

Subscribers

This month's *Subscribers'* disk brings you a wealth of useful programs. **David Taylor** introduces the collection.

Please read the instructions for installing the Coverdisk included in the box opposite. Note also that this month there is a text file on the Subs disk that gives you a guide to the contents of each of the archives. The *Pictures* are also stored directly on the disk in the *Pictures* directory and not within an archive.

AlphaSpell UK

This directory contains a large additional English dictionary for use with the *AlphaSpell* package included on the main Coverdisk. To install use the script included or simply copy the files to the directory where you installed the original data.

ShapeShifter 3.5

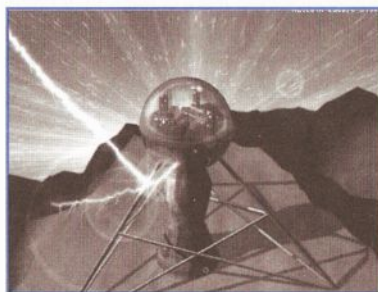
This program is a Macintosh emulator allowing you to run Macintosh software at an acceptable speed on your Amiga. You need to take an image of your Macintosh's ROMs using the software provided and you then need to place the ROMs as software in the *ShapeShifter* directory. Before starting the program, you do need to adjust your startup-sequence and enter the *Prepareemul* command that will set up the memory on your Amiga in such a way that the "Mac" can use it.

When you start the program you need to set up either a Mac partition or a Macintosh hard disk file. Install the Mac system software and you'll have a fully functioning Mac emulator multitasking on your Amiga.

The emulator can use Mac floppy disks if you have a HD drive attached and SCSI devices, including scanners and tape streamers. You can use up to 256 colours on an AGA machine and up to 16 million colours on a machine with a graphics card attached. The program can run on one or two monitors and it's an incredibly flexible and powerful system.

You require at least an 020 processor and 4Mb RAM as well as OS2.1 or above.

Simply load the pictures into an image processor or picture viewer.



You also need the Macintosh for its ROM file and the system disks. The package is shareware and you should register with the author to get the full version which costs US\$40.

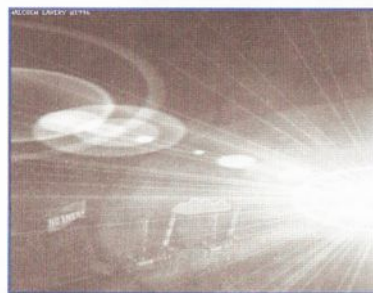
Magic Menu

The Amiga's menu system does still look remarkably out-dated, but by using this program you can change not only the way that the menus

work, but also their antiquated look. The program just needs the one program file and the best place to put this is in your *WBStartup* drawer so it starts automatically every time you boot up.

When you want to edit the preferences, use the hotkey to open up the interface. You can set the program so that when you

Dazzling images created by the author of Magic Paintbox, Malcolm Lavery.



click your right mouse button the menus will pop up and stay open instead of having to hold down the button. The menus no longer remain at the top of the screen and will appear wherever your pointer is.

There is a hotkey to open up the menu from the keyboard (default LAmiga Space) which means you can use the menus with the arrow keys and Enter to choose menu items. You can easily cancel a menu by pressing Escape.

FindIt GUI

This is a program that gives you the Find command present on other Operating Systems. You need to install the *bgui.library* to you *libs:* directory. The search can be made on mounted volumes and for any filenames matching your text input. It's very simple, but it has been a glaring omission from the Amiga's Workbench for some time.

Plugged

This is a CDDA player that promises a player with powerful features which can remain in the background when you are using it so that it's as transparent as possible. For this reason, you can set the preferences and the hide the interface so that it will play CDs automatically when you put them into the drive. In fact all the

settings will then be used with all CDs put in. You can also edit track listings so that the interface can show details of the artist and CD tracks.

Time Piece

Time Piece is a program similar to the *Tiny Meter* package on the main Coverdisk. It allows you to put a clock and memory meter on your Workbench and also to have a menu program launcher. The program launcher is edited within the preferences program and you can use the launcher by making sure the bar is selected and then clicking the right mouse button.

Mathan

This is a remarkable program that has extensive uses. Using *ARexx*, it allows you to plot a 3D surface and then save it as an IFF picture or to solve a linear simultaneous equation. As such it is a sort of complex calculator aimed at engineers or maths students. For a more detailed explanation, you need to read the documentation.

Version WB

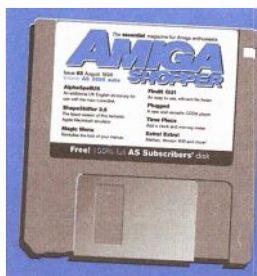
This program gives you a GUI that can be used to select a file and to get the version and revision number of the command or library. It's much simpler and quicker to use than the original CLI program.

Pictures

On the Subs disk you'll find a *Pictures* directory with two pictures created by Malcolm Lavery, author of *Magic Paintbox*. They're called *Dome City* and *Mine Explosion*. Both pictures are saved as JPEGs and you just need to load them into an image processor or a picture viewer. ■

Installation

To install your *Subscribers* disk, you can boot it; but you'll have to have your main Coverdisks at hand because the *Subscriber's* disk needs a few files from them. If you have a hard drive, you can install everything from the three disks by loading Workbench and using the script on the first Coverdisk. Remember that after installing the disks, you may still need to install individual programs from their drawers.



- AlphaSpell UK
- ShapeShifter 3.5
- Magic Menu
- FindIt GUI
- Plugged
- Time Piece
- Mathan
- Version WB
- Pictures